

U.S. Jewry Accepts Billion Loan Project

WASHINGTON, Sunday. — A call to American Jewry to supply Israel with \$1 billion dollars within 60 days in order to meet "urgent needs of the country," was issued here tonight at the closing session of the National Planning Conference.

Conference Avoids Welfare Fund Issue

By Jessie Zel Lurie, POST Correspondent
WASHINGTON, Sunday. — The morning session of the American Jewish Planning Conference was devoted to the United Jewish Appeal with delegate after delegate from local communities coming to the microphone to pledge immediate organization of their 1951 campaigns with large gifts and meetings.

They also said they would borrow from banks in advance of their 1951 collections to provide the national total of \$50 million cash by December 31.

Two other essential points were considered by the resolutions committee: one was the pre-campaign allocation of the major portion of welfare funds to the U.S.A. and the second was the request for a moratorium on the building of new local institutions for three years.

These points were not presented to the conference because of the strenuous opposition of the Welfare Fund Council. The questions will be presented to the National Welfare Fund meeting in December. The opposing viewpoints will then be put forward strongly.

Conference Resolution

The resolution unanimously adopted by the Washington conference reads:

1 — We believe that the American people, which is seeking to strengthen democracy in every corner of the world, is eager to aid Israel as a land of affirmative democratic leadership and high moral inspiration. We therefore urge the government of the United States to help Israel through grants-in-aid, loans and other forms of financial support that have been mobilized by our government to further the cause of democracy everywhere.

2 — Our generation has the historic opportunity to complete the redemption of hundreds of thousands of Jews from lands where their political and economic status is precarious and their right to life freely as Jews is restricted or denied. The U.S.A., commanding the support of all American Jews, has been, and must continue to be, our most potent weapon in the rescue of thousands of our people and their rehabilitation in many hundreds of settlements, the vast majority in Israel.

3 — This conference calls on all American Jews to intensify their efforts greatly on behalf of the U.S.A. so that their made available the increased funds required for rescue, transport, reception and the initial stages of settlement in Israel.

4 — The funds available through the U.S.A. can meet at most only the basic relief and initial resettlement needs. The conference therefore calls on U.S. Jews to provide other resources to enable Israel to realize its great opportunities for the complete absorption of newcomers through its industrial, economic and agricultural development.

5 — With full confidence in Israel's capacity to achieve economic stability and self-sufficiency and to fulfill all its obligations it assumes, we pledge our fullest cooperation for the success of any effort that is made by the Government of Israel to float a public loan in the U.S. as a means of obtaining funds for financing its constructive programme.

6 — The progress of Israel's economic structure and the favorable conditions created by the Government of Israel for private investment should make the basis for an intensive effort to encourage American investors to participate in the expansion of business enterprise which can bring profitable returns and also serve as a vital factor in Israel's attainment of self-sufficiency.

7 — We call for the mobilization of all forces of American Jewry and the support of the entire American nation on behalf of this programme inspired by the example of the people of Israel itself.

8 — Deeply aware of the magnitude of our responsibilities, we accept them with confidence.

No Independent French Evacuate Reich Army: Plevien

LYONS, Sunday (AP). — Premier Rene Plevien today put France's plan for a European Army on a virtual take-it-or-leave-it basis.

"Only a European Army under European control can guarantee that the reconstitution of a strong German army will not drag us some day into a crusade or war of revenge that we do not want at any price," he said in a speech here.

(The French Parliament last Thursday approved the plan for a supra-national army by a vote of 349 to 239. M. Plevien's middle-of-the-road coalition government had announced the plan as the only way France would agree to rearm Western Germany.

Addressing a party congress of his own left-of-centre Democratic Section Resistance Union (U.D.R.), M. Plevien said: "You know that every European people must take its share of the necessary common (defence) effort. We do not deny that the Federal Republic (Western) Germany must assume its share, too."

France's Western allies have thus far reacted coolly to the plan.

King Gustav Dead at 92



STOCKHOLM, Sunday (AP). — King Gustav of Sweden, died at 92 this morning. He was 92 years old.

His eldest son, Gustav Adolf, who is 67 years old, will be sworn in at a ceremony in the Stockholm Royal Palace at 1 o'clock G.M.T. tomorrow afternoon. At the same time the Swedish government will tender its formal resignation.

King Gustav passed away quietly after a long illness at his Drottningholm Royal Palace outside Stockholm, where he was born on June 18, 1858.

All Sweden has been plunged into deep mourning for the old monarch who was deeply loved by the Swedish people.

The only member of the Royal Family present at his bedside was Princess Sibylla, mother of the new Crown Prince, who is only four years old.

TEL AVIV, Sunday. — President Weizmann sent the following cable of condolence to the passing of his father.

"I was shocked to learn of the death of your illustrious father, His Majesty King Gustav V, that one of the great figures of the Swedish people, who for almost 60 years presided over the destiny of the Swedish people. The people of Israel and here all over the world are profoundly grieved at the passing of this great international figure, who symbolized democracy, progress and tolerance; they will never forget the generous help which he extended to the survivors of the Hitlerite persecutions who sought refuge in Sweden. His death constitutes a cruel loss to the entire civilized world."

The Foreign Minister, Mr. Moise Sharet, has sent the following cable to the Swedish Minister of Foreign Affairs, M. Osten Unden:

"Profoundly shocked by the news of the death of His Majesty Gustav V, I beg you to accept the expression of my sincere condolences and heartfelt sorrow on the occasion of the passing of this eminent personality who was one of the great figures of the international scene during the past half century. The consistent benevolence and heartiness which he showed toward the Jewish people assure him of an abiding and cherished place in our hearts."

(See Obituary on Page 3, and London, Page 4)

Indonesia Rushes Troops to Ambon

JAKARTA, Sunday (AP). — The Indonesian were reliably reported today to be rushing at least three more battalions of Infantry to Ambon, where rebel troops of about battalion strength are still preventing six Indonesian battalions from a break-through after one month's fighting.

Radio Ambon tonight appealed to "Dutch mothers" to send food for Ambon's underfed children and again asked the Red Cross for help.

The Radio said that war, earthquakes and floods had destroyed 90 per cent of the foodstocks left and the need for children's food is pressing.

The Australian Red Cross, in a letter to the South Moluccan Secretariat, yesterday expressed willingness to send relief to Ambon, but would act through Red Cross H.Q. in Geneva. However, so far the Red Cross has been unable to persuade its visit to rebel-held Ambon.

ARABS REJECT P.C.C. REPORT

The Arab delegations to U.N. met at Lake Success over the weekend to discuss the recent P.C.C. supplementary report.

A spokesman told an A.N.A. correspondent after the meeting that the P.C.C.'s recommendations were "completely absurd, impractical and unworkable." He added that in no event would the Arab states change their minds and hold direct talks "with the Jews" on any issue.

Two members of the Arab delegation, Rifaat el-Husseini, cousin of the ex-Mufti of Jerusalem, is attending on behalf of the "Arab Higher Executive" in Cairo. He was a senior official in the Mandatory Government. Ahmed Shihab, a lawyer formerly at Cairo, is attending as an adviser on Palestine affairs to the Arab League delegation.

Chinese Troops Reported 160 Kms. Into Tibet

KALIMPONG, Sunday (Reuters). — Tibetan "people's troops" officered by Chinese Communist political advisers, have advanced 160 kms. inside Tibetan territory, according to a Tibetan trader who has just arrived from Lhasa.

The troops were advancing from Jyekundo, along the Nanchuku-Lhasa route, he added.

He left Lhasa on Thursday and said that then the "people's troops" had advanced "deep into Tibet."

The trader said no Chinese forces had entered Inner Tibet.

Tibetan "people's troops" were also reported to have advanced from Jyekundo to Riwache on the Dechu River (a trading town near the eastern frontier of Tibet on the caravan route to Lhasa), by-passing the southwestern fortress of Chamdo.

These troops had not gone beyond Aliwoche, the trader said, but had taken up positions blocking Chamdo fortress, garrisoned by Tibetan government troops in division strength.

This would place the "people's troops" in a position by which they could prevent any aid being given by the Chamdo garrison to Lhasa.

U.N. Forces Crack N. Korean Defences

TOKYO, Sunday (Reuters). — British Commonwealth forces, covered by an intense air bombardment, cracked the western corner of the Communist mountain redoubt in North Korea today.

They advanced on positions manned by troops of the 17th Communist Brigade, who had been ordered to fight to the death, to protect the coastal approaches to the northern border stronghold of Sinuiju, according to front-line reports.

United States bombers and fighters made one of the fiercest attacks of the campaign to smash opposing armor before Commonwealth troops battled their way to night into Chongju, 60 miles west of Sinuiju, where the Northern government had fled.

New Landing

On the east coast, 27,000 infantrymen of the U.S. 7th Division made an unopposed landing at Iwon, about 70 miles from Manchuria, and 100 air miles above Wonsan. Over 50 ships took part.

"We are going to the Manchurian border destroying the enemy where we can find him," their commander, Major General David G. Barr declared.

But in this sector, North Korean resistance continued to stiffen as the United Nations forces pressed towards the Manchurian border and the great dams of the Yalu river.

NEW ASSAM QUAKE

CALCUTTA, Sunday (AP). — According to Assam reports, Dibrugarh was today rocked violently for 110 seconds followed by an after-shock 15 minutes later. No casualties were reported but there was great damage.

Norway's Village Dedicated

By RUTH CALE
KFAR YONA, Sunday. — Fifty bright wooden houses, brought here in sections all the way from Norway, were today dedicated just east of here to the memory of 27 Youth Aliya children and three nurses who perished in the plane crash near Oslo nearly a year ago. The name of the village will be Yanof.

The houses, a gift from the Norwegian labour movement to Israel's labour movement, will be inhabited by the families of some of the victims and other immigrants from Tunisia. Among them are the Allala, whose only son Yitzhak was the sole survivor of the crash. Yitzhak, a dark-haired boy of 13 with big black eyes, still has a big scar across his nose.

The future inhabitants of Yanof have been living in tents near their permanent home for several months now, helping put their houses together. Each family will have two rooms, a large kitchen and bathroom, and some land around the house. The Norwegian donors are also providing a community centre and a kindergarten.

Members of the Norwegian labour movement who helped raise this gift put in 200,000 work hours. Mr. Joseph Berg, the movement's representative who came to Israel to hand over the houses, told the gathering at the ceremony today. The same type houses are being put up all over Norway, which also has a housing shortage.

Deed of Altruism
"It is not the gift of 50 houses, though in our country they are very welcome indeed, nor is it the 600,000 kroner the houses cost," Mr. Pinhas Lubianiker, Secretary-General of the Histadrut, stressed. "The touching thing about this gift is the spirit in which it was given. It was true altruism."

Turning to Mr. Berg on the platform, he said, "You have done a great deed, filled our hearts with new hope, and for this the working people of Israel thank the Norwegian working people."

The village lies on a small height four kilometers from the Jordan border. To the east it overlooks Tulkarm and the hills of Ephraim, while all about it, new villages have been erected for Turkish and Iraqi immigrants. Raphael Ishai, the secretary of the village, recalled to me how he had organized the immigration of these families to Israel just before the plane crashed. He immediately held counsel with the immigrants, and it was decided to erect a village in the memory of the victims. "This is going to be the village and we shall make good," said the young man.

It will yet be some time before all the houses are erected. So far, only one is completely finished. The others are in various stages of completion, and five or six are hearing completion, while the rest are still in the planning stage.

Mr. Reuben Burstein, of the Histadrut Executive, presided. The speakers were Mr. Yacov Uri, representing the labour movement, and Mr. A. Harfeld, of the Agricultural Centre. Mr. Yehoshua Bertonev recited from the Bible. Among the guests was Mr. Israel Melamed, the Norwegian Consul.

This was the second lot of houses that had been sent to Israel in memory of the crash. The first shipment caught fire in Istanbul harbour.

Cabinet Crisis Nears End As Mapai and Orthodox Agree

The Cabinet crisis neared solution last night after an agreement between Mapai and the Orthodox Bloc. At the same time a rift appeared in the Orthodox Front when the Mizrahi Party decided not to support the new Ben Gurion government.

SEVEN POINTS

The seven-point agreement reached between Mapai and the Orthodox Bloc reads:

1. The ten-point Coalition programme approved by the Knesset in March, 1949, as well as the recent decision on economic policy, jointly constitute the only basis for a stable government until the end of the First Knesset's term.
2. All members of the Government bear collective responsibility for its actions.
3. The Government is bound to safeguard fully equality of rights and freedom of conscience of all citizens, and to prevent any discrimination or coercion in economic, religious, and cultural matters from whatever quarter.
4. The ruling adopted by the Provisional Government regulating the import of meat shall continue in force. This practice provides the import of meat to be handled by the Minister concerned with food supplies together with the Minister of Religious Affairs.
5. A law is to be passed fixing the Knesset's term of office from the time of its election, i.e., until January, 1952.
6. A Ministerial Committee will be set up to clarify religious questions. Until these problems are resolved, no worsening of the status quo in religious affairs will take place under any circumstances.
7. The members of the Coalition will announce to the Knesset their willingness to support the Government and to participate in it without interruption until the termination of the term of the First Knesset.

Hotelman Can Cure His Own Ills, Joseph Tells Gathering

In a frank analysis of Israel's tourist and hotel problem, Dr. Dov Joseph, Minister of Supply and Rationing, told the opening session of the Hotel, Cafe and Restaurant Association at the King David Hotel in Jerusalem yesterday, that most of the difficulties could be solved by the members themselves.

Special Meals For Tourists

Beginning Sunday, tourists will be entitled to special service, including non-austerity meals at 11 hotels and two restaurants in various parts of the country, against payment in foreign currency.

The arrangement has been made by agreement with the Ministry of Finance, the Ministry of Supply and Rationing announced yesterday.

Criticism Unjustified

Referring to a comment made by Mr. Morris Geiger, chairman of the Jerusalem branch of the Association in which the latter criticized Government bureaucracy, Dr. Joseph said that this sort of general criticism was unfair to Government workers, who for the most part were efficient and hard working.

Mayor Daniel Auster welcomed the new Association members and guests who crowded into the King David's main hall to attend the opening of the new hotels in Jerusalem, which he said, had a natural attraction for tourists.

Other speakers included Mr. Meir Grossman, head of the Economic Department of the Jewish Agency; Mr. W. Kinneret, of the Government Tourist Department; Mr. A. Halper, Food Controller in the Ministry of Supply and Rationing; and Mr. Z. Lehman, Director of the Control Section in the Supply Ministry.

One Killed, 26 Hurt In Bus Accident

A woman was killed and 26 persons were injured early yesterday morning when an Egged bus en route from Jerusalem to Tel Aviv overturned while making the final curve approaching Shavar Hagai.

The dead woman was identified as Shifra Marenstein, 45, of Gat Rimon, near Pith Tikva. An Egged spokesman said that she was killed when she either sought to jump or was flying from the bus as it careened about the bend and while the driver tried to keep the vehicle under control.

A Jerusalem police spokesman said the driver, Naim Ben Agababa, 32, had apparently lost control of the vehicle on the turn, causing it to overturn. He is being detained.

Thirteen of the injured were given first aid treatment by the Jerusalem Magen David Adom while another thirteen including an unconscious woman, Sara Nishik, 20, of Jerusalem, were rushed to the Hadassah Hospital, four of them, will remain in hospital for further treatment. They are Nissan Dienstag, 44, of Beer-sheba; Hanna Ben Haim, 30; Arieh Shulowitz, 34, a soldier; and Miss Nishik, who was scheduled to undergo an operation.

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OUR Minister to Stockholm carries with him not only, as we wrote yesterday, a message of Israel's good-will and sincere friendship to the Swedish people. He must be the bearer to them now of our deep grief and condolence in the death of their beloved King, Patriarch in his years as in his rule, Gustav V of Sweden, the Goths and Wends — how history echoes in the phrase!

United in his lifetime the days of Disraeli and the chimes of Hitler. His Jewish sympathies were not confined to a dinner with the great Victorian Empire-builder. All Jewry is beholden to Gustav's dauntless humanitarianism for succour to the oppressed of Germany, and for his intervention to check the rapine which Hitler's small Jewish congregations of his country have flourished in the warmth of a monarchical regime so genuinely popular that the Party of the Left was known as the Royal Socialists.

Gustav's name already has its abiding place in our land: a playground in Kiryat Motzkin, a forest in the Hebron Hills. There will be other memorials. He has deserved of us more than we can repay, because of his care for Jewry, because he symbolized the ideal democratic way of life, and foremost among the peace-loving rulers of the world.

INTEREST in next month's local government elections has not yet effervesced into feverish exhortation and a national canvass. With **MUNICIPAL** and **POLLING** local and national politics are nearly identical — and mutual scoldings of worshipping competitors are indistinguishable in matter of dogma from Party exchanges in the Knesset. Its own debating society gathers round every parish pump to argue rival lists: in municipal fervour and self-importance, the younger set foundation holds itself not inferior to Jerusalem or Tel Aviv. But it is there, naturally, that excitement is focused. The present Mayors have performed difficult tasks not without some success. Mr. Auster has seen Jerusalem emerge from the shock and recession of a siege, proclaimed Capital of the State, assured of minimum water, and modestly entering upon industrialization. During the over-long innings of Mr. Rokach, the pace and proportions of the growth of Tel Aviv — enveloping Jaffa now — have outdone the wildest flights of fancy, even in a country where the phenomenal energy contributed greatly to this prodigious development.

But one-man dynamos have their faults: and the presidency of a Town Council ought not to become a life office. We are sure that neither Mr. Rokach nor Mr. Rokach will withhold cooperation from his successor, should free and democratic votes decree that the old order give place to new. Each can render priceless service by applying his influence and experience to shaping the new councillors into Municipalities worthy of the status and requirements of our twin prides, Holy City and commercial metropolis. The assimilation of newcomers calls for stout hearts and astute minds: it calls for supraparochial objectivity besides. These are the specifications of the new councillors for whom the townspeople will cast their ballots. There are, as well, a host of reforms to which vigour and intelligence must be unrelentingly devoted: not least, modernized refuse collection and scavenging; clean, hygienic eating-places and kiosks; public gardens by the score; abundance of water in our taps and less pollution in the sea; abatement of noise, hucksters and street poles; and, for Tel Aviv especially, spacious and noble approaches.

ALLIED ZONE PERMITS EAST TRADE FLOW

Trieste Links Albania With Russia

By Richard Mowrer

TRIESTE — THE position of Russia's smallest satellite, Albania, is bad, but it could be worse. It is bad because since the Tito-Kremlin break in 1948 Albania has had no direct overland communications with the East. It could be worse because one of Albania's remaining life-lines passes through the Anglo-American zone of Trieste and could be severed, but isn't.

Periodically Albanian motor-powered vessels of between 600 and 700 tons tie up at the quayside here to take on desperately needed supplies that have come down by rail from the Communist countries, notably Hungary and Czechoslovakia, and from West Germany. The ships unload wool and hides, mineral ores, pitch and asphalt which Czechoslovakia, Hungary and points east seem to have need of. When they head out to sea again they are laden with machinery, steel products, motor trucks and a variety of other items.

There are eight of these vessels and their principal function is to exploit to the limit the Trieste life-line which helps isolated Albania survive as the Russians' only outpost on the Mediterranean. Albania's only other link with Moscow and her satellites is by air, and by sea the long way round through the Turkish straits to the Black Sea.

Secrecy or Speed

The air link is a flimsy thing. It passes over Yugoslav territory and is tolerated on condition that every east-bound and west-bound plane lands at a Yugoslav airfield to be checked. Passengers flying to and from Albania are required to have Yugoslav transit visas and cargo is liable to inspection.

The sea route between Albania and the nearest Soviet satellite port, Burgas (Bulgaria), is 2,100 kms. long. (From Burgas it is another 800 kms. to the nearest port of the Soviet Union, Odessa). This long route has one advantage over the others: privacy. The cargoes of the Russian ships that ply between Albania and the Black Sea can be kept secret.

The Trieste route, on the other hand, represents a shortcut of some 800 kms., a valuable saving in time, distance and shipping for the Russians. The Albanian vessels do the 800 km. stretch between the Albanian ports and Trieste; from Trieste the rail link to Hungary is only 600 kms.; to Czechoslovakia 660 kms.; thanks to the Trieste short-cut the Russians have a convenient life-line through which to channel the more normal trade requirements of their Mediterranean satellite. They are making the most of this convenience.

In 1949, 13,000 tons of goods



passed through Trieste from Albania destined mostly for Czechoslovakia. Goods from behind the Iron Curtain (mostly from Czechoslovakia) shipped by rail to the Trieste waterfront to be loaded onto Albanian vessels totalled 4,100 tons. This year the volume of Albanian trade in transit through Trieste is about the same. As no figures are available on what comes and goes via the long sea route through Turkey it is impossible to know whether Albania is in fact being milked.

Trieste's Interest

Five years after the war, Trieste is still under Allied Military Government, an Anglo-American partnership for administering the city and part of the surrounding territory pending an international settlement. At the end of the war Yugoslavia and Italy wrangled over possession of Trieste. Then it was agreed that until the issue was settled, the disputed territory should be divided into two zones and remain under military occupation of the British, Americans and Yugoslavs. The Anglo-American zone includes the city and port of Trieste and is garisoned by 5,000 British and 5,000 American troops.

Trieste's economic existence depends above all on a continuous flow of trade between eastern and central Europe and the Mediterranean. It might do the city some harm were the Western Allies one day to cut off Albania's life-line here.

JERUSALEM ART NOTES

The Age of Balzac

THE generous help of the French Government has enabled the Bezalel Museum to commemorate the Balzac Centenary with a rich and fascinating exhibition being held under the patronage of M. Rene Neuville, the French Consul-General. A large collection of photographs of Balzac, portraits, relics, and illustrations have been supplemented with prints and reproductions from the Bezalel archives to make something more than a "Balzac Exhibition," which gives a comprehensive picture of the period.

It was neither a state nor an alliance which finally won the Napoleonic wars but rather a class—the bourgeoisie. All over Europe and particularly in France, the Middle Class triumphed.

"The Nouveau Riche"

The Nouveau Riche were anxious to imitate the customs of the defunct ruling class, and the Coat of Arms that Balzac invented for himself is on exhibition as well as portraits of the titled ladies he loved and of the "Great-Grandmothers of a Queen," whom he finally managed to marry. The nobles of old

had decorated their mansions with precious heirlooms of generations. The Nouveau Riche imitated them by buying antiques from artshops and auctions. Balzac, a true son of his time, filled his "chateau" with junk, which he believed to be valuable. He was his own interior decorator, and the "interior" of the exhibition strike one as rather delicious period pieces.

Like so many of his heroes, Balzac was fond of taking risks. On exhibition are the sample books of his printing press which failed so dramatically. Faded photographs show the Sardinian silver mines into which Balzac sank so much of his capital; only his successors realized dividends from these mines. Balzac went as bankrupt as any of the industrial magnates characterized in his books.

In keeping with the spirit of the age of Industry and Commerce, Balzac felt no qualms about turning out pot-bollers. Dozens of volumes of his easy pulp fiction fill the show cases.

On every normal working day of his adult life he wrote two thousand words. Balzac was a nightmare to copy-readers, printers and proof-readers. The manuscripts and corrected galley at the exhibition are scrawled over with almost indecipherable instructions.

Balzac's Heroes
The artistic background of Balzac's life is well illustrated. The romantic painters, Delacroix and Gericaute, and the masters of caricature, Daumier and Gavani, are well represented in the exhibition. Grand Opera and Operette, heroic novelettes in ten volumes and pamphlets, epic poetry and witty chansons. They are the extremes encompassed by the work and life of Honoré de Balzac.

This is a most enjoyable picture album of Balzac. His fiction was drawn from life, with the quaint concentrated quality of early photography. These heroes of Balzac as shown in the "Balzac Exhibition" look overcast and overfed. They moved in overstuffed surroundings and talked overstatements. Still these heroes of a bygone age will remain on record for all time, as live as any of Shakespeare's knights and kings.

Today's contributors include: M. Bar-Ilan of Rishon Le Zion; Hans Grunthal and Dr. E. Gotsman of Haifa; and Yosef Aharoni and Dov Kiron of Jerusalem.

AN incoherent autograph hunter spotted Serge Koussevitzky in the audience of a Jerusalem auditorium after a concert last week, and dashed over to him, notebook in hand, just as the conductor reached the exit. A great stickler for form, he bowed to the eminent musician and greeted him in English with a polite "Good evening." Koussevitzky replied with a pleasant smile and a young man was taken aback that he forgot to ask for the autograph.

NESIVITIS, the desire to travel, is becoming an occupational disease. The symptoms are best recognized by

Rommel's Letters

IMMIGRANT'S FOOD

To the Editor of The POST
Sir, — As an economist, I do not understand the economic motives underlying the draconic regulations about the amount of food brought in by immigrants. The official apprehension that a part of such food may be sold by the immigrants at non-official prices can hardly impress anybody. Is it not clear that in a country which suffers from an acute food shortage, the more extra food (not involving payments in foreign currency) is imported, the better? No amount of official sophistry, on the theme of black market, boy can obscure this elementary truism.

The more additional food (and other essential goods) brought into the country (over and above what we have to buy abroad), — whether by way of "non-payment imports," gift parcels or immigrants' property — the smaller the pressure on our limited resources, the narrower the gap between demand and supply, the weaker the inflationary trend, and the lower the price. Instead of encouraging, by all ways and means, the import of food, which does not cost us a penny in foreign exchange, and which represents a net addition to the country's supplies, we restrict it. What a policy of cutting our nose to spite our face!

Yours etc.,
A. L. MOHLEVER,
B.Sc. F.R.E.S.
Jerusalem, October 16

PHOTO PAPER

To the Editor of The POST
Sir, — With reference to your recent report on the photographic paper shortage, I wish to point out a contradiction in the behaviour of the Government. A ban has been imposed on the importing of photographic material which the Government has long since treated as a luxury. But at the same time there are demands of the citizen photographs for an identity card, registration in the reserves, Histadrut membership, and for many other purposes.

Yours etc.,
FRANZ SUSS
Karkur, October 22

had decorated their mansions with precious heirlooms of generations. The Nouveau Riche imitated them by buying antiques from artshops and auctions. Balzac, a true son of his time, filled his "chateau" with junk, which he believed to be valuable. He was his own interior decorator, and the "interior" of the exhibition strike one as rather delicious period pieces.

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CHURCHILL'S WAR MEMOIRS

Rommel Defeats Auchinleck

A communiqué from Gen. Auchinleck dated June 1, 1942, announced that the Afrika Corps had attacked our position south of Gazala without much effect.

From May 28 to May 30 there had been heavy fighting over a wide area stretching from Acroma to the north to Bir Hacheim, 40 miles to the south, and from El Adem to our minefields 30 miles to the westward.

These minefields had been breached in two places — on the general line of Trigh Capuzzo and at a point ten miles south of this. On May 31 the enemy had withdrawn.

In order to renew his strength for a further effort it was essential for Rommel to hold

On the Defence Committee and with the Chiefs of Staff we now took an important decision. Just as six months earlier I had arranged with the President for American transports to carry two divisions round the Cape, and these had given us a certain amount of manoeuvring power when the Japanese attacked at Pearl Harbour, so now we had a second two divisions (the 44th and 8th Armoured) rounding the Cape about whose destination we highly convenient options. We now decided after earnest thought to send them to Egypt, for the Desert battle.

Of course if the Russian front broke in the Caspian-Caucasus area, and even greater emergencies fell upon us, there was still a month in hand for a second choice. This

only after the decision had been made that he was indeed largely by the urging of the Minister of State, to do what he should have done from the beginning and take over the direct command of the battle himself.

It is to this that I ascribe his personal failure, some of the blame for which undoubtedly falls on me and my colleagues for the unduly wide responsibilities assigned a year before to the Middle East Command.

Immediately Tobruk glared upon us, and as in the previous year we had no doubt that it should be held at all costs. Now also, after a month's needless delay, General Auchinleck ordered up the New Zealand Division from Syria, but not in time for it to take part in the battle for Tobruk.

We were not satisfied with the orders to General Ritchie, which did not positively require him to defend Tobruk. To make sure I sent the following telegram: Prime Minister to General Auchinleck, 18 June 42.

We are glad to have your assurance that you will insist on giving up Tobruk. War Cabinet interpret your telegram to mean that you will insist on General Ritchie's leaving, as many troops in Tobruk as are necessary to hold the place for certain.

The reply left no doubt. General Auchinleck to Prime Minister, 18 June 42.

War Cabinet interpretation is correct. General Ritchie is putting into Tobruk what he considers an adequate force to hold it, even should it become temporarily isolated by enemy.

In these circumstances, though grieved by what had happened, I still felt from a survey of all the forces on both sides, and of Rommel's immense difficulties of supply, that all would be well. We did not, however, know the conditions prevailing in Tobruk.

Considering that Auchinleck's plan had been to await an attack, and remembering all the months that had passed, it was inevitable that the already ready well-armed fortifications of Tobruk should not have been maintained in the highest efficiency, and indeed strengthened. For the defensive battle upon which he had resolved, the fortress and salient port of Tobruk was an invaluable factor of insurance.

(To be continued on Wednesday)

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